


Abstract

Title: Metaphor and Indirect Communication in Nietzsche

Author: Peter Georgsson

Language: English

[View metadata, citation and similar papers at core.ac.uk](#)

brought to you by  **CORE**

provided by Göteborgs universitets publikationer - e-publicering och e-arkiv y of

Gothenburg

Series: Acta Philosophica Gothoburgensia, no. 28

ISSN 0283-2380

ISBN 978-91-7346-775-9

Doctoral dissertation at University of Gothenburg, 2014

In the first chapter of this thesis some aspects of the philosophical background to Nietzsche's thought are discussed. In the next chapter two ideas that are central in Nietzsche's books are scrutinized: one is the idea of "the death of God", and the other is the idea that the human psyche is an energy system.

However, the main focus of this thesis is indirect communication in Nietzsche's texts. The phrase "indirect communication" was coined by Kierkegaard. It denotes what (ideally) results when strategies that are meant to induce the reader to self-activity are used. Self-activity here is something over and above just accepting the information that is explicit in a text.

It is shown that Nietzsche's books open up to reading processes that include indirect communication. Furthermore it is demonstrated that textual indeterminacy is important for the possibility of this kind of communication.

In fact, one of the main contentions of the present thesis is that, speaking generally, a text can be used for indirect communication only if it contains indeterminacy. The author has managed to find only one sort of indirect strategy that is an exception to this rule.

Keywords: Nietzsche, Kierkegaard, metaphor, indirect communication, indeterminacy, self-realisation

ACTA PHILOSOPHICA GOTHOBURGENSIA

28

METAPHOR AND INDIRECT COMMUNICATION
IN NIETZSCHE

Peter Georgsson

AKADEMISK AVHANDLING

för avläggande av filosofie doktorsexamen i teoretisk filosofi, som med tillstånd av
Humanistiska fakultetsnämnden vid Göteborgs Universitet framläggs till offentlig granskning
måndagen den 10 februari 2014 på Ågrenska Villan, GU.